IN THE CLAIMS

1-12. (Cancelled)

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Currently Amended) A gating device to delimit an x-ray beam, said gating device comprising:

a device housing;

first and second absorber elements mounted in said device housing opposite each other;

an adjustment device connected to said first and second absorber elements for moving said absorber elements relative to each other to set a spacing between said first and second absorber elements forming a slit for passage of an x-ray beam therethrough;

each of said absorber elements having an absorber element edge shaped to give said slit a slit width that varies in a longitudinal direction of the slit, said slit width increasing outwardly, from a central position, toward respectively opposite ends of said slit, each slit edge, in said longitudinal direction of said slit, having a middle region producing a uniform width of said slit, and[[,]] further regions respectively disposed on opposite sides of said middle region that produce a linearly increasing slit width in said longitudinal direction of said slit; and

said adjustment device producing a parallelogram-like relative movement between said absorber elements.

14. (Previously Amended) A gating device as claimed in claim 13 wherein each absorber comprises an absorber element body formed by a flat plate having said absorber element edge.

Claim 15 has been amended as follows:

15. (Currently Amended) A computed tomography apparatus comprising:

an x-ray radiator that emits an x-ray beam;

an x-ray detector disposed in a path of said x-ray beam for detecting x-rays in said x-ray beam, said x-ray radiator and said radiation ~~detection~~ detector being rotatable around a system axis; and

a gating device disposed in front of and proximate to said x-ray ~~detector~~ radiator, said gating device comprising a device housing[[;]], first and second absorber elements mounted in said device housing opposite each other[[;]], an adjustment device connected to said first and second absorber elements for moving said absorber elements relative to each other to set a spacing between said first and second absorber elements forming a slit for passage of an x-ray beam therethrough[[;]], with each of said absorber elements having an absorber element edge shaped to give said slit a slit width that varies in a longitudinal direction of the slit, said slit width increasing outwardly, from a central position, toward respectively opposite ends of said slit, each slit edge, in said longitudinal direction of said slit, having a middle region producing a uniform width of said slit, and[[,]] further regions respectively disposed on opposite sides of said middle region that produce a linearly increasing slit width in said longitudinal direction of said slit[[;]], and said adjustment device producing a parallelogram-like relative movement between said absorber elements.

16. (Previously Presented) A computed tomography apparatus as claimed in claim 15 wherein said x-ray beam exhibits a fan angle β between a central ray of said x-ray beam and an edge ray of said x-ray beam, and wherein the respective edges of said first and second absorber elements, in combination, produce a width of said slit that approximately varies dependent on cos β.

17. (Previously Presented) A computed tomography apparatus as claimed in claim 15 wherein said x-ray beam exhibits a fan angle β between a central ray of said x-ray beam and an edge ray of said x-ray beam, and wherein the respective edges of first and second absorber elements, in combination, produce a width of said slit that approximately varies according to

$$\ell(ß) = C/\cos ß + D,$$

wherein C and D represent respective constants for said slit.